AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an advertisement to a user operating a wireless communication device, comprising:

receiving first information about the identity of the user;

receiving second information about a location of the user;

searching a first database containing <u>one of</u> a plurality of user-specific advertisements <u>and</u> a plurality of location-specific advertisements;

accessing a second database containing a plurality of user-specific preferences;

identifying one or more preferences in the second database that are associated with the user;

selecting one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements and the plurality of locationspecific advertisements based on the one or more preferences in the second database; and

sending the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements to the wireless communication device in the form of a TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) message over a communication network without transmitting an indication of the location of the user therewith and the plurality of location-specific advertisements to the wireless communication device in the form of a TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) message over a communication network without transmitting an indication of the identity of the user therewith.

2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein receiving the second information about the location of the user includes obtaining the second information for a fee.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the first information about the identity of the user includes obtaining the first information for a fee.

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- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the first information about the identity of the user includes soliciting the first information from the user when the user signs up for a service that provides one or more user-specific advertisements to the user.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the first information about the identity of the user is accomplished by extracting the first information from a message transmitted by the wireless communication device.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first information about the identity of the user includes <u>the</u> second information about a location of the user, and wherein the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements is sent to the wireless communication device without transmitting an indication of the location of the user therewith.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first information about the identity of the user excludes the second information about a location of the user.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein searching the first database includes:

 accessing the first database; and

 matching the identity of the user received in the first information against each of a

 plurality of identities stored in the first database to determine which of the

 plurality of user-specific advertisements is associated with the user.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication network includes the Internet.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

 receiving second information about a location of the user;

 accessing a second database containing a plurality of location-specific preferences;

 identifying one or more location-specific preferences in the second database that are

 associated with the location of the user;

 selecting the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements based on the one or more

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location-specific preferences in the second database; and sending the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements in the form of the TCP/IP message to the wireless communication device without transmitting an indication of the location of the user therewith.

- 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein receiving the second information about the location of the user includes obtaining the second information for a fee.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an advertisement over a communication network to a user operating a wireless communication device, comprising:

receiving first information about the identity of the user;

receiving second information about a location of the user;

searching a database containing <u>one of</u> a plurality of user-specific advertisements <u>and a plurality of location-specific advertisements</u>;

selecting one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements and the plurality of locationspecific advertisements based on one or more criteria pre-selected by the user; and sending the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements to the wireless communication device over the communication network without transmitting the second information about the location of the user therewith and the plurality of location-specific advertisements to the wireless communication device over the communication network without transmitting the first information about the identity of the user therewith.

- 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein receiving the first information about the identity of the user is accomplished by obtaining the first information from an information provider.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the first information about the identity of the user is obtained from the information provider for a fee.

- 16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein receiving the second information about the location of the user includes receiving the second information from an information provider.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein selecting the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements includes:

receiving the one or more criteria from the user;
storing the one or more criteria received from the user in the database; and
consulting the one or more criteria while selecting the one of the plurality of userspecific advertisements from the database.

- 18. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising allowing the user to unblock over the Internet the transmission of the second information about the location of the user.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising disclosing the second information about the location of the user to an emergency service provider when the user requests emergency help.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the one of the plurality of user-specific advertisements is sent over the communication network in the form of a TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol) message.